

We Claim:

1. A gripper system, comprising:

grippers disposed in a row, said grippers defining interspaces therebetween and having hold-downs for respectively holding down a free edge of a printing material sheet gripped by said grippers, said hold-downs being disposed to project into said interspaces and being mounted to adjust together with said grippers when gripping the printing material sheet.

2. The gripper system according to claim 1, wherein said hold-downs are disposed on said grippers.

3. The gripper system according to claim 1, wherein each of said hold-downs is formed in one piece together with a respective one of said grippers.

4. The gripper system according to claim 2, wherein each of said hold-downs is formed in one piece together with a respective one of said grippers.

5. The gripper system according to claim 1, wherein:

said grippers have sheet clamping surfaces; and

said hold-downs have sheet supporting surfaces disposed to be offset away from said sheet clamping surfaces in a direction at right angles to said row.

6. The gripper system according to claim 1, wherein:

said row of said grippers has a row direction;

said grippers have sheet clamping surfaces; and

said hold-downs have sheet supporting surfaces offset from said sheet clamping surfaces at right angles to said row direction.

7. The gripper system according to claim 5, wherein said sheet supporting surfaces and said sheet clamping surfaces are offset from one another in steps and define planes substantially parallel to one another.

8. The gripper system according to claim 6, wherein said sheet supporting surfaces and said sheet clamping surfaces are offset from one another in steps and define planes substantially parallel to one another.

9. A gripper system, comprising:

grippers disposed in a row, said grippers defining interspaces therebetween and having hold-downs for respectively holding down a free edge of a printing material sheet gripped by said grippers, said hold-downs projecting into said interspaces and adjusting together with said grippers when gripping the printing material sheet.

10. A machine for processing printing material sheets, comprising:

a first gripper system having:

grippers disposed in a row, said grippers defining interspaces therebetween and having hold-downs for respectively holding down a free edge of a printing material sheet gripped by said grippers, said hold-downs being disposed to project into said interspaces and being mounted to adjust together with said grippers when gripping the printing material sheet; and

a second gripper system, said first and second gripper systems being disposed to transfer and accept the printing material sheets from one to the other during sheet transfers.

11. The machine according to claim 10, wherein said second gripper system has second grippers disposed in a row, said

second grippers defining second interspaces therebetween and having second hold-downs for respectively holding down a free edge of a printing material sheet gripped by said second grippers, said second hold-downs being disposed to project into said second interspaces and being mounted to adjust together with said second grippers when gripping the printing material sheet.

12. The machine according to claim 11, wherein

said hold-downs have sheet supporting surfaces;

said second hold-downs have second sheet supporting surfaces;
and

said sheet supporting surfaces face said second sheet supporting surfaces during the sheet transfers.

13. The machine according to claim 10, further comprising a sheet transport drum, said first gripper system being a part of said sheet transport drum.

14. The machine according to claim 13, further comprising a second sheet transport drum, said second gripper system being a part of said second sheet transport drum.

15. The machine according to claim 14, wherein said machine is a sheet-fed printing press.

16. A machine for processing printing material sheets, comprising:

a first gripper system having:

grippers disposed in a row, said grippers defining interspaces therebetween and having hold-downs for respectively holding down a free edge of a printing material sheet gripped by said grippers, said hold-downs projecting into said interspaces and adjusting together with said grippers when gripping the printing material sheet; and

a second gripper system, said first and second gripper systems being disposed to transfer and accept the printing material sheets from one to the other during sheet transfers.

17. The machine according to claim 16, wherein said second gripper system has second grippers disposed in a row, said second grippers defining second interspaces therebetween and having second hold-downs for respectively holding down a free edge of a printing material sheet gripped by said second grippers, said second hold-downs being disposed to project

into said second interspaces and being mounted to adjust together with said second grippers when gripping the printing material sheet.

18. The machine according to claim 17, wherein

said hold-downs have sheet supporting surfaces;

said second hold-downs have second sheet supporting surfaces;
and

said sheet supporting surfaces face said second sheet supporting surfaces during the sheet transfers.

19. The machine according to claim 16, further comprising a sheet transport drum, said first gripper system being a part of said sheet transport drum.

20. The machine according to claim 16, further comprising a second sheet transport drum, said second gripper system being a part of said second sheet transport drum.

21. The machine according to claim 16, wherein said machine is a sheet-fed printing press.